

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re:	Hayashizaki et al.	Confirmation No.:	4129
Appl. No.:	10/533,941	Group Art Unit:	1637
Filed:	06/13/2005	Examiner:	Kenneth R. Horlick
For:	METHOD FOR IDENTIFYING, ANALYZING AND/OR CLONING NUCLEIC ACID ISOFORMS		

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

This is in response to the Office Action dated March 26, 2008, in which the Examiner has required restriction between Group I (Claims 1-50, 54-63 and 75), Group II (Claims 51-53, 64 and 68-74), Group III (Claim 65), Group IV (Claims 66-67), and Group V (Claims 76-78). Applicants hereby elect with traverse to prosecute the claims of Group I (Claims 1-50, 54-63 and 75), drawn to methods of analyzing nucleic acid isoforms. Applicants respectfully submit that the burden placed on the Applicants in having to file and prosecute separate applications for the inventions of Groups I, II, III, IV, and V outweighs the burden placed on the Examiner in searching the inventions of these groups together. As such, Applicants respectfully request that the restriction requirement be withdrawn. Applicant expressly reserves the right to file divisional applications or take such other appropriate measures deemed necessary to protect the inventions in the non-elected claims.

Should the Examiner have further questions or comments with respect to examination of this case, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned so that further examination of this application can be expedited.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those, which may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted,



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